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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/768,434	01/24/2001	Jeffrey N. Sloan	M-9818 US	2388
33438	7590	06/13/2006	EXAMINER REAGAN, JAMES A	
HAMILTON & TERRILE, LLP P.O. BOX 203518 AUSTIN, TX 78720			ART UNIT 3621	PAPER NUMBER

DATE MAILED: 06/13/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Application/Control Number: 09/768,434  
Art Unit: 3621

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**Acknowledgement of Reply Brief**

Application No.: 09/768434

Art Unit: 3621

The reply brief filed 09 May 2006 has been entered and considered. The application has been forwarded to the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences for decision on the appeal.

Art Unit: 3621

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or concerning this communication or earlier communications from the Examiner should be directed to **James A. Reagan** whose telephone number is **571.272.6710**. The Examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 9:30am-5:00pm. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Examiner's supervisor, **James Trammell** can be reached at **571.272.6712**.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://portal.uspto.gov/external/portal/pair> . Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at **866.217.9197** (toll-free).

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JAMES A. REAGAN

Primary Examiner

Art Unit 3621

31 May 2006

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Reagan', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

**JAMES A. REAGAN**  
**PRIMARY EXAMINER**